

Practitioner's Docket No.: 920_090

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: ODAKA, Tsuaki; IESHIGE, Munenori; MAEDA, Mitsuru; HIROTA, Kenichi; and YUKI, Masahiro

Ser. No.: 10/586,171

Group Art Unit: 1794

Filed: July 17, 2006

Examiner: Bruce H. Hess

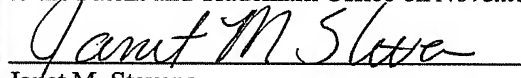
Confirmation No.: 2831

For: THERMAL TRANSFER SHEET

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted via EFS to the Patent and Trademark Office on *November 13, 2008*.


Janet M. Stevens

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 14, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of record based on the following arguments.

Claims 17-31 are pending herein. Applicants appreciate the Examiner indicating that claims 20-25 and 29-31 are allowed.

Claims 17-19 and 26-28 were provisionally rejected on the grounds of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1-3 of copending Application No. 10/584,474. This provisional rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 17 and 26 are distinguishable from claims 1-3 of the '474 copending application, because the material of the respective adhesive layers are structurally distinct. More specifically, the '474 application claims an adhesive layer comprising a three-dimensionally cross-linked product of a polyvinylpyrrolidone resin, which is a cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone polymer. In contrast, the adhesive layer of claim 17 includes a modified polyvinylpyrrolidone resin itself, and the adhesive layer of claim 26 includes a polyvinylpyrrolidone resin and a modifying agent for modifying the polyvinylpyrrolidone resin. Thus, the claimed adhesive layer materials are modified polyvinylpyrrolidone resins which are physically distinct from the cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone polymer recited in claims 1-3 of the '474 copending application.

Based on the above, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the provisional rejection and issue a Notice of Allowance in due course.

The requested copy of JP 07-102746 is attached. That reference is already present on the PTO IFW for this application (see the first "Foreign Document" associated with the IDS filed 11/30/06).

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

November 13, 2008

Date



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SPB:JAW:jms

Attachment: JP 07-102746 (Reference **AK**)

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